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November 25, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Caton

On behalf of Channel 3 of Corpus Christi, Inc., licensee of Television Station KIII, Corpus Christi, TX., there is herewith transmitted an original and four copies of it's Comments in MM Docket Number 87-268.[1/]

Yours very truly,

Robert B. Jacobi

Enclosures

1/ The "Original" of the signature page will be filed within the next day or two.

1946 1996

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BEFORE THE

Federal Communications Commission

In the Matter of	)
	)
Advanced Television Systems	)
and Their Impact Upon the	)MM Docket No. 87-268
Existing Television Broadcast	)
Service	)

TO: The Commission

COMMENTS OF CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI ON THE SIXTH NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Channel 3 of Corpus Christi, Inc., licensee of Television Station KIII, Corpus Christi, Texas (hereinafter KIII) respectfully submits its limited Comments in the above-referenced proceeding.

KIII currently operates on Channel 3. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) proposes the allocation of DTV Channel 43, for KIII. Station KIII respectfully requests that Channel 8 be designated as the allocated DTV channel for Station KIII.

Channel 8 has been identified as a possible alternative for the Corpus Christi market. Attached hereto is an Engineering Statement which demonstrates that a KIII operation on DTV Channel 8 satisfies in all respects the engineering criteria. More specifically, the Engineering Statement demonstrates that a KIII operation on DTV Channel 8 would have no impact on the NTSC co-channel operation of Television Station KGNS-TV,Laredo, Texas and negligible impact

(1.2%) on the proposed DTV co-channel operation of station KLRN-TV, San Antonio. In terms of meaningful replication, the Engineering Statement demonstrates that a KIII operation on DTV Channel 8 would approximate 100%.

Channel 3 filed a modification application on July 23, 1996 (BPTC-960723KF) which is referenced in the attached Engineering Statement. It is respectfully requested that the facilities proposed in the modification application be incorporated in the NPRM proceeding for purposes of establishing the correct factual data for KIII.

The allotment of DTV Channel 8 can be achieved consistent with relevant interference considerations and the Commission's underlying replication philosophy. Such allotment will constitute an efficient use of the spectrum with benefits to both the public interest and Station KIII.

Respectfully Submitted
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.

Date: 11-25-96

By: Billy F Brotherton
Billy Brotherton, President

Bernard R. Segal, P.E.
Consulting Engineer
Washington, DC

ORIGINAL

ENGINEERING STATEMENT
PREPARED FOR
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.
MM DOCKET NUMBER 87-268

The instant engineering statement has been prepared on behalf of Channel 3 of Corpus Christi, Inc. (hereafter, Channel 3) in support of their Comments in the FCC's proceeding in MM Docket Number 87-268 concerning Advanced Television Systems and Their Impact Upon the Existing Television Broadcast Service.

Channel 3 is the licensee of station KIII, Corpus Christi, Texas. KIII operates on VHF channel 3 with maximum effective radiated power of 100 kilowatts and antenna height above average terrain of 262 meters. An application is pending in BPCT-960723KF to increase the antenna radiation center height above average terrain to 288 meters. The studies prepared herein reflect KIII operation pursuant to the pending application for construction permit.

The FCC Draft Table of Allotments in the Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making proposes UHF channel 43 for KIII with DTV power of

4647.9 kilowatts with a DTV/NTSC area match of 100 percent. The FCC Draft Table apparently employed the currently licensed height for KIII of 262 meters for determining the replication power. Presumably, a somewhat greater power would be needed for replication pursuant to the currently pending proposal in BPCT-960723KF.

While Channel 3 is pleased that a channel that could afford 100-percent replication has been found, the real-world reality of achieving average DTV effective radiated power approaching 5 megawatts and the operating costs associated therewith, raise grave concern for Channel 3. Since channel 3 is not within the proposed core spectrum, the opportunity for later DTV operation on channel 3, is foreclosed. In this respect, Channel 3 supports the Broadcast Caucus Comments to expand the spectrum to be allocated for DTV use and, particularly, that portion of the spectrum that would accommodate channels 2 through 6.

Accordingly, upon review, it has been determined that VHF channel 8 with replication effective radiated power of 15.6 kilowatts would afford KIII

substantially the same coverage as for its proposed operation in BPCT-960723KF, while not doing any grave injustice to other NTSC and proposed DTV allotments.

The various studies presented herein in Figures 1 through 6 were prepared using the HDTV program developed by TA Services of Boulder, Colorado, using the FCC's database and planning criteria.

Figure 1 shows the study results for KIII NTSC operation on channel 3 for the facilities proposed in BPCT-960723KF. It is readily apparent that a substantial portion of the Longley-Rice interference area within the predicted Grade B contour is over the Gulf of Mexico. Since neither the FCC program nor the TA Services program draws a distinction between land area and water area, the replication percentage provided in the FCC's Draft DTV Table of Allotments may not be correct. Hence, for the purposes of the instant study, reference is made to the populations, rather than to the areas that have been developed as part of the TA Services studies.

According to Figure 1, the proposed NTSC channel 3 operation for KIII would provide interference-free service within the FCC predicted Grade B contour to 514,000 persons using the Longley-Rice prediction methodology. That same methodology predicts that 8,000 persons would receive interference from other stations. Figure 2 is the DTV coverage for KIII on channel 8 using an effective radiated power of 15.6 kilowatts with the same antenna height as proposed in BPCT-960723KF. That study shows that 512,000 persons within the FCC predicted Grade B contour would have interference-free service using the Longley-Rice prediction methodology. Ten thousand persons would receive interference within the predicted Grade B contour. Thus, with only 15.6 kilowatts effective radiated power on channel 8, substantially the same interference-free coverage can be achieved as with close to 5 megawatts on the proposed FCC DTV paired channel 43.

Additional studies have been performed to determine the impact that KIII DTV operation on channel 8 might have on other NTSC and proposed DTV allotments. NTSC channel 8 station KGNS-TV, Laredo and the proposed DTV channel 8 allotment for KLRN-TV, San Antonio, are those stations which have

been identified as most critical for consideration for KIII DTV channel 8 operation.

Figures 3 and 4, respectively, show the conditions that would prevail for KGNS-TV without DTV KIII and with DTV KIII on channel 8. A comparison of the results indicates that the DTV KIII operation on channel 8 would have no impact at all on KGNS-TV.

Figures 5 and 6, respectively, are similar studies to Figures 3 and 4, but for proposed channel 8 DTV operation for station KLRN-TV, San Antonio. The study of Figure 5 indicates that without KIII's DTV channel 8 operation, 1,479,000 persons within the KLRN-TV predicted Grade B contour would have interference-free service. The results of Figure 6 indicate that when KIII DTV operation is taken into account, the interference-free population is reduced to 1,461,000 persons. The differential is 18,000 persons corresponding to approximately 1.2 percent of the 1,500,000 persons currently served by KLRN-TV on its present NTSC channel 9 according to the FCC's Draft Table.

While the prospective interference to KLRN-TV's DTV channel 8 operation is well within the range being considered for many other DTV allotments, Channel 3 is willing to accept a condition to use of a directional antenna to avoid increasing interference to KLRN-TV. The overall benefit that would be achieved by operating KIII's digital facility on channel 8 compared to that on channel 43 merits that preferential consideration be given to such an allotment in the final Table of Allotments.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on November 21, 1996.

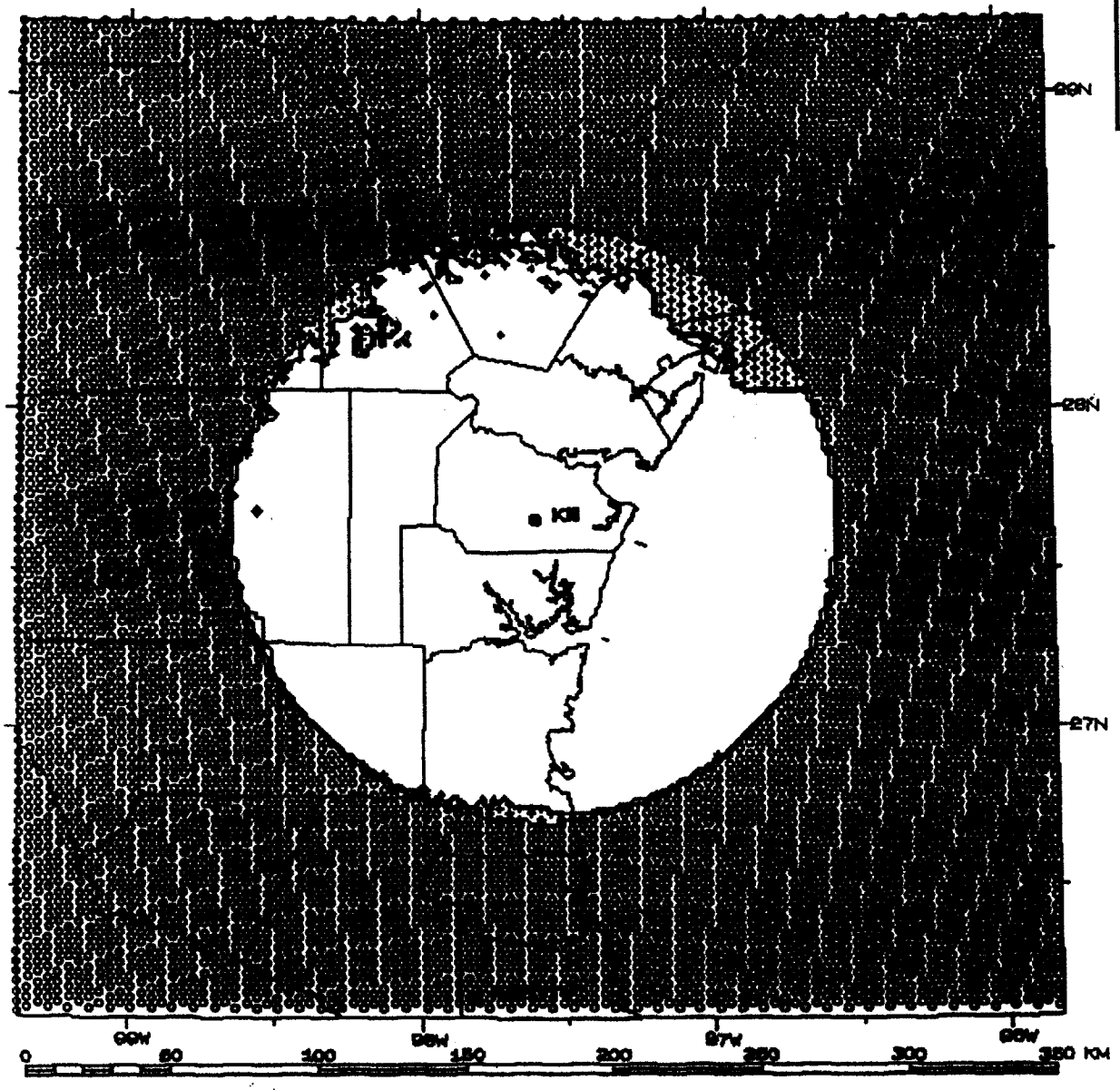
Bernard R. Segal, P.E.

NOVEMBER 1996

BPCT-960723KF KIII
NTSC, CH 3
LONGLEY-RICE COVERAGE
WITHIN FCC PREDICTED
GRADE B

Prepared for
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Bernard R. Segal, P.E. Consulting Engineer



Signal to Interference ratio

No Interference
Area: 30650. sq km
Population: 514000.
Households: 172000.

HDTV Interference
Area: 0. sq km
Population: 0.
Households: 0.

NTSC Interference
Area: 2550. sq km
Population: 8000.
Households: 3000.

Signal below minimum
Area: 80350. sq km
Population: 847000.
Households: 255000.

Figure 1

NOVEMBER 1996

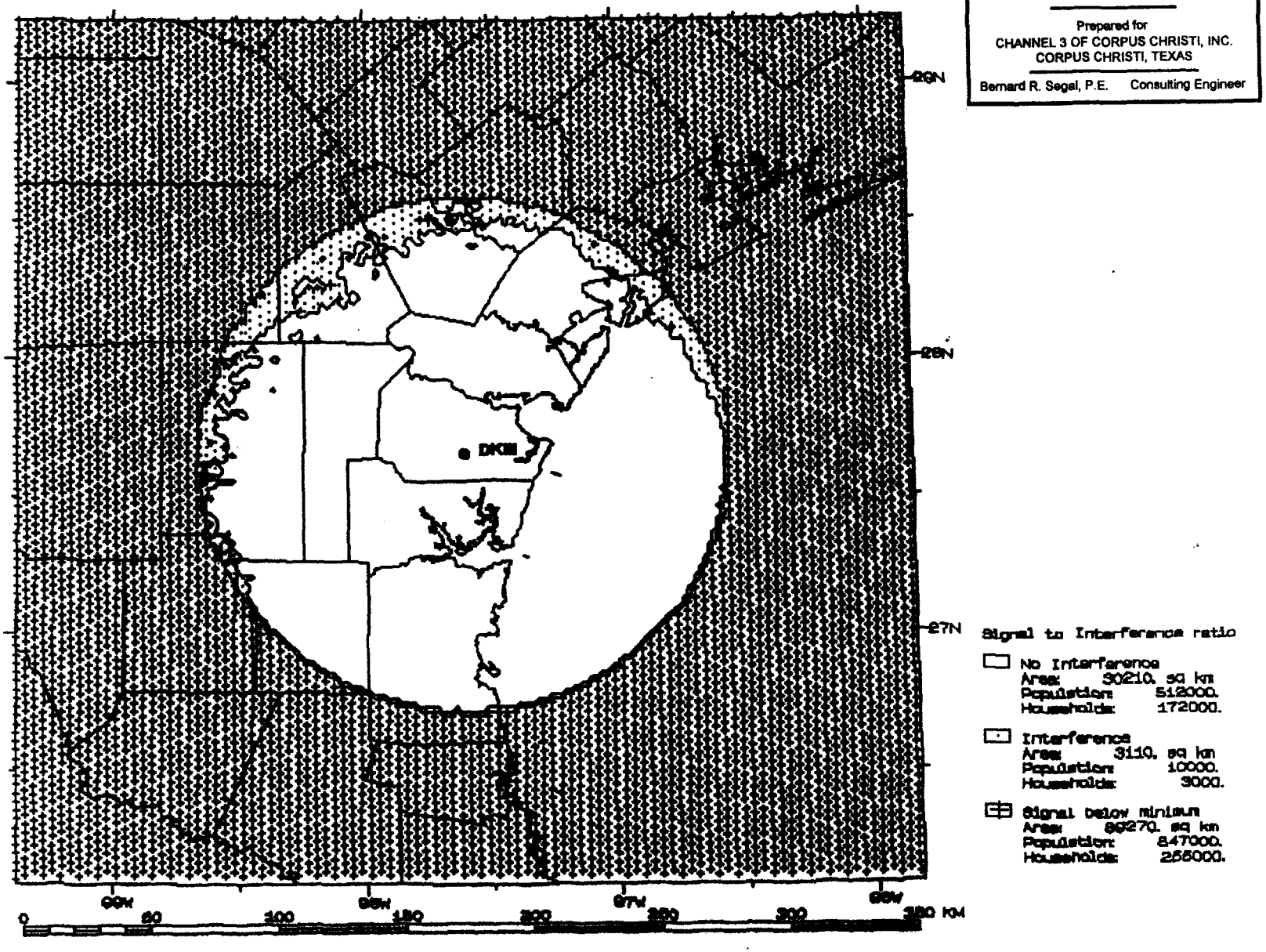


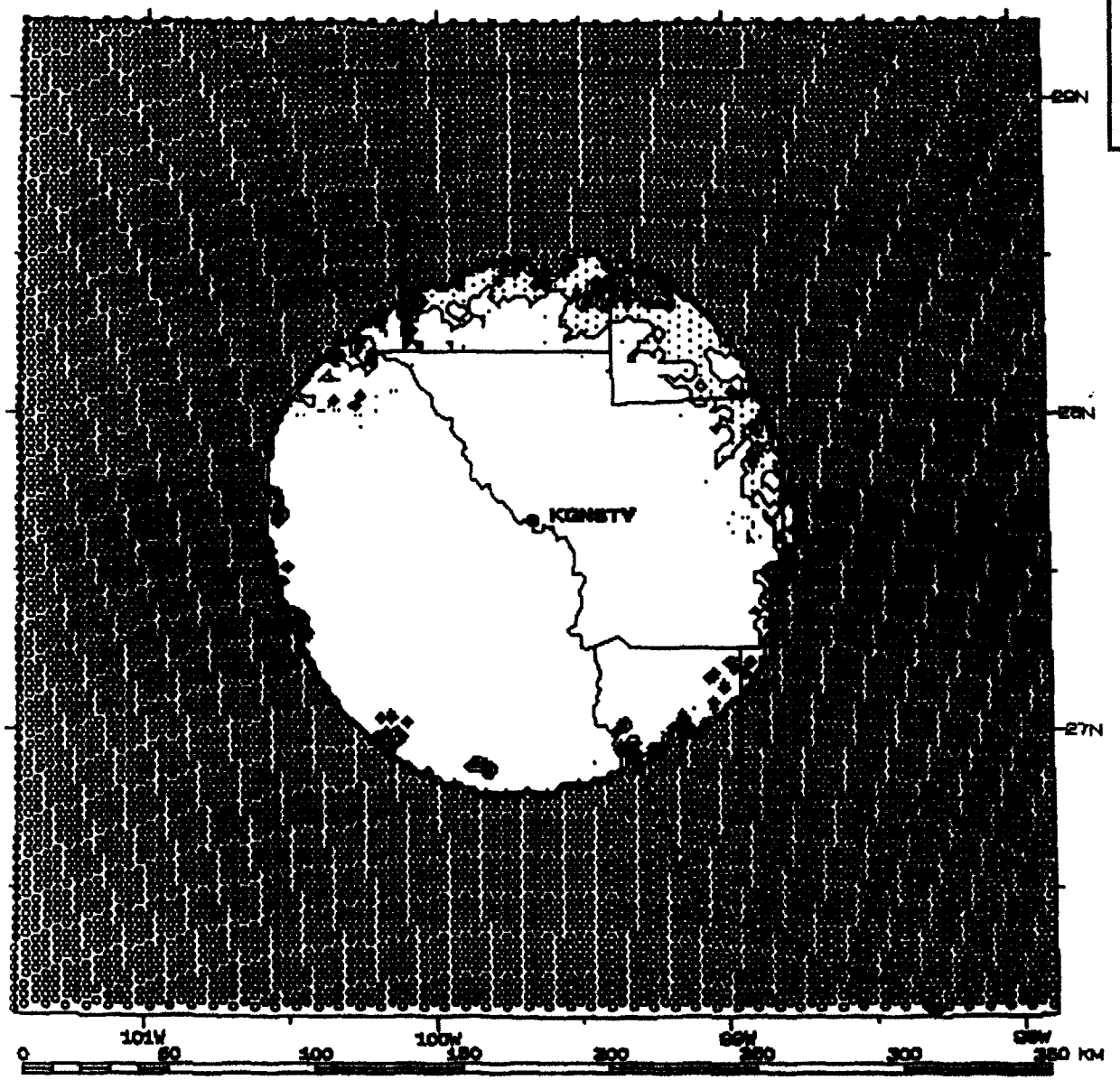
Figure 2

NOVEMBER 1996

KGNS-TV, LAREDO
NTSC, CH 8
LONGLEY-RICE COVERAGE
WITHIN FCC PREDICTED
GRADE B
WITHOUT DTV KIII, CH 8

Prepared for
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Bernard R. Segal, P.E. Consulting Engineer



Signal to Interference ratio

No Interference
Area: 22630. sq km
Population: 178000.
Households: 47000.

HDTV Interference
Area: 3140. sq km
Population: 1000.
Households: 0.

NTSC Interference
Area: 0. sq km
Population: 0.
Households: 0.

Signal below minimum
Area: 96910. sq km
Population: 699000.
Households: 201000.

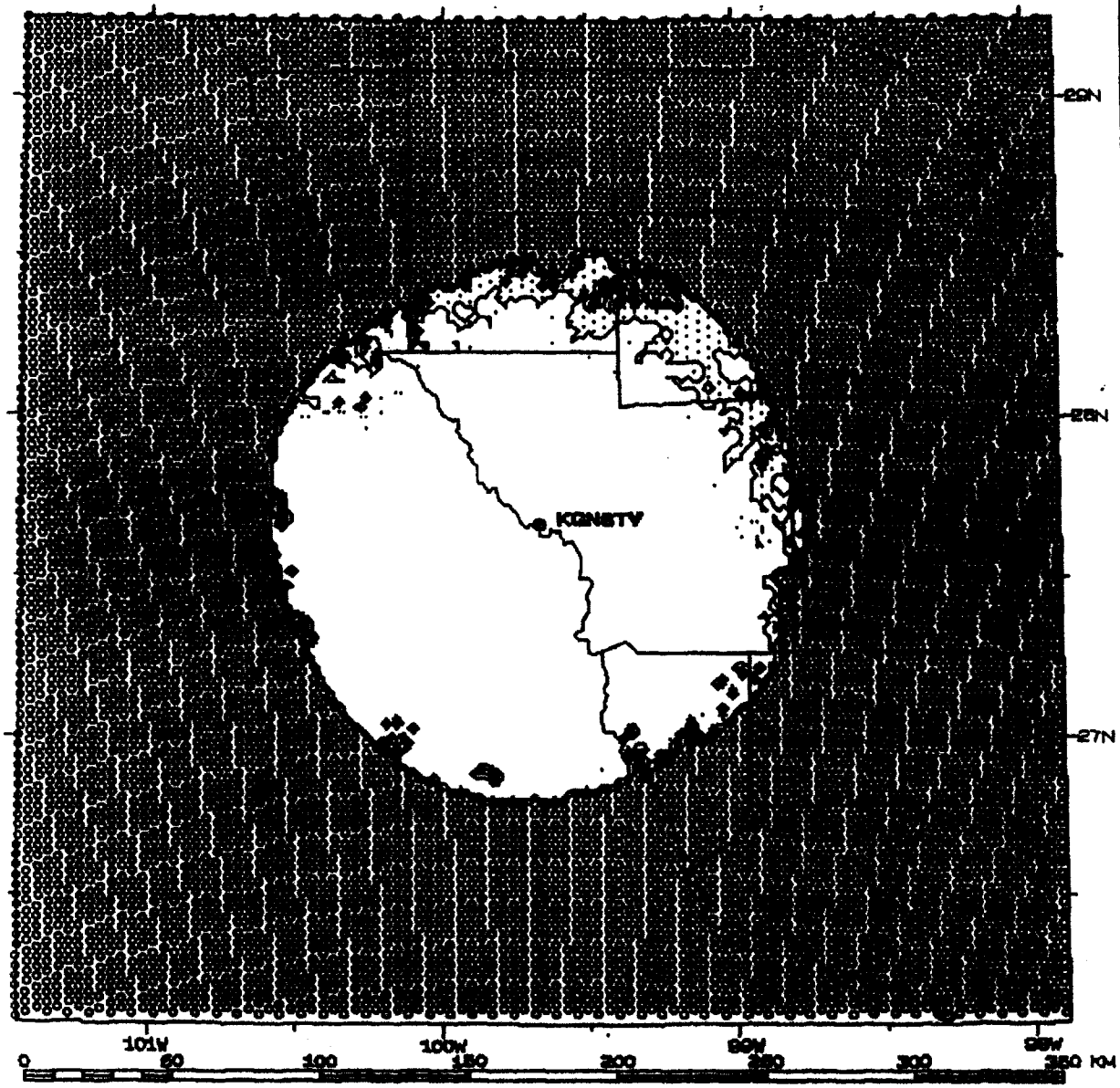
Figure 3

NOVEMBER 1996

KGNS-TV, LAREDO
NTSC, CH 8
LONGLEY-RICE COVERAGE
WITHIN FCC PREDICTED
GRADE B
WITH DTV KIII, CH 8

Prepared for
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Bernard R. Segal, P.E. Consulting Engineer



Signal to Interference ratio

No Interference
Area: 22630. sq km
Population: 179000.
Households: 47000.

HDTV Interference
Area: 3140. sq km
Population: 1000.
Households: 0.

NTSC Interference
Area: 0. sq km
Population: 0.
Households: 0.

Signal below minimum
Area: 96910. sq km
Population: 699000.
Households: 201000.

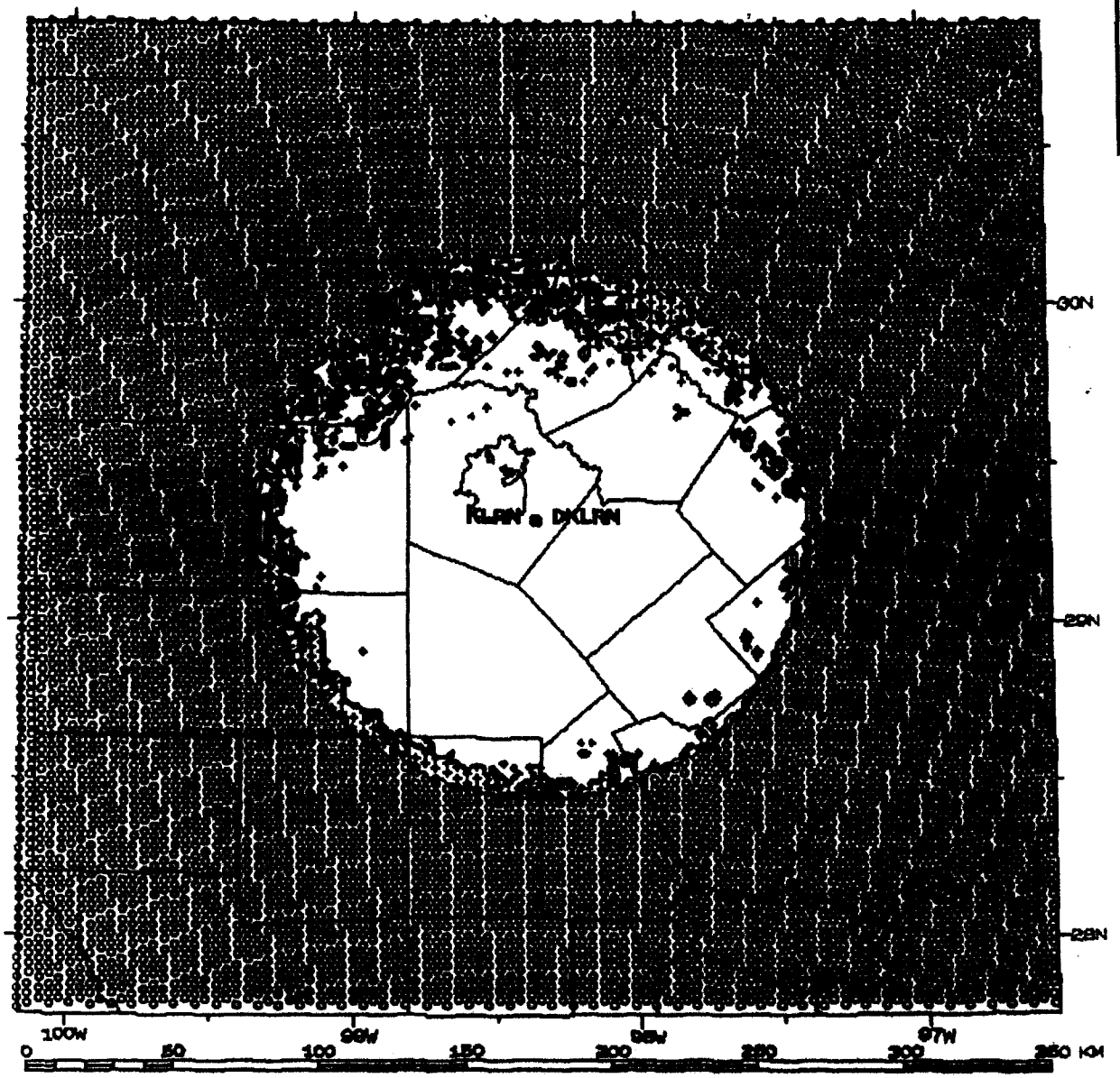
Figure 4

NOVEMBER 1996

KLRN-TV, SAN ANTONIO
DTV, CH 8
LONGLEY-RICE COVERAGE
WITHIN FCC PREDICTED
GRADE B
WITHOUT DTV KIII, CH 8

Prepared for
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Bernard R. Segal, P.E. Consulting Engineer



Signal to Interference ratio

No Interference
Area: 23170. sq km
Population: 1479000.
Households: 513000.

HDTV Interference
Area: 0. sq km
Population: 0.
Households: 0.

NTSC Interference
Area: 3120. sq km
Population: 38000.
Households: 12000.

Signal below minimum
Area: 96290. sq km
Population: 1438000.
Households: 540000.

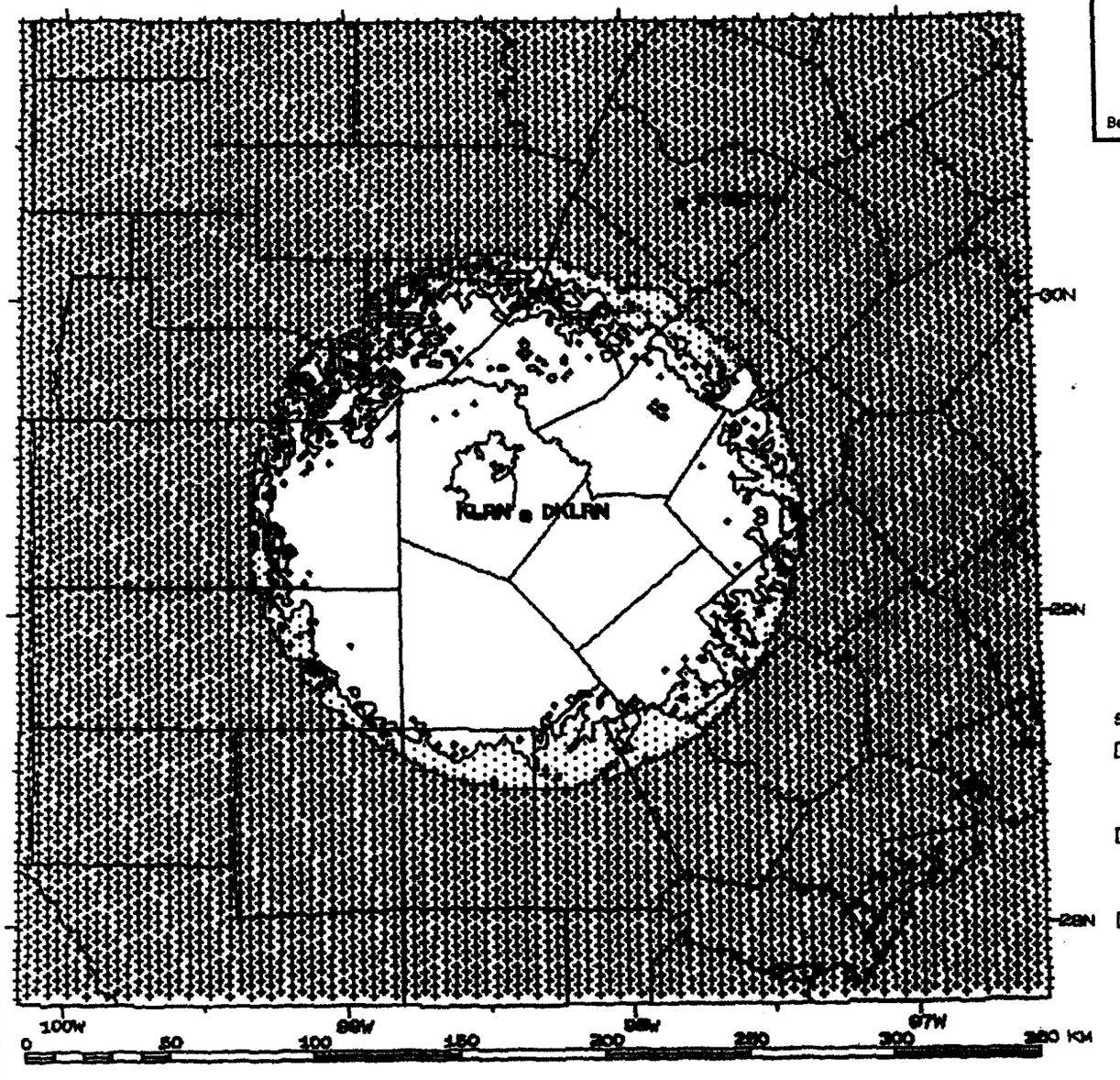
Figure 5

NOVEMBER 1996

KLRN-TV, SAN ANTONIO
DTV, CH 8
LONGLEY-RICE COVERAGE
WITHIN FCC PREDICTED
GRADE B
WITH DTV KIII, CH 8

Prepared for
CHANNEL 3 OF CORPUS CHRISTI, INC.
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Bernard R. Segal, P.E. Consulting Engineer



Signal to Interference ratio

No Interference
Area: 21200. sq km
Population: 1461000.
Households: 606000.

Interference
Area: 5200. sq km
Population: 36000.
Households: 12000.

Signal below minimum
Area: 96170. sq km
Population: 1433000.
Households: 557000.

Figure 6